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the solid crust now firmly united to the persistent pedicel. The absorbents of these blood-vessels now commence active operation and undermine the antler. They do not carry away the surface of the bone evenly so as to leave it smooth, but as it were they remove alternate particles, or rather alternate groups of granules, till the union, which before was so firm that no force could break it at the point of junction, has become so weakened that the antler drops off or is detached by some slight violence. This process of absorption requires about one month's time. As before stated the blood now flows freely from the blood-vessels of the periosteum of the pedicel which had penetrated the seam, now ruptured by the removal of the antler. If we now examine the butt of the antler we shall find the surface very rough, like coarse sand-paper, resulting from the unequal absorption before described.

We shall also find it of a most immaculate whiteness without the least trace of blood coming from it, although it is sometimes stained with the blood from below.

Space will not now permit me to pursue the subject and explain the peculiarities of the growth of the antlers on the emascu- lated buck, and show why it is that they never mature so as to be thrown off, but are persistent through a long course of years, even to the death of the animal.

REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTICES.

YOUNG'S PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.*—This is a terse and excellent compilation by one who, as formerly connected with the geological survey of Great Britain and now a teacher of geology, knows how to meet the wants of students. As the preface was written in November, 1873, and the latest information given concerning the results of deep sea dredging and other explorations which have thrown so much light on the geology of the globe, we may feel sure that it contains very late information. The views on the formation of continents and theoretical considerations regarding the geological cause of the present distribution of animals and

* Physical Geography. By John Young, Regius Professor in the University of Glasgow. Putnam's advanced Science Series, New York. 12mo, pp. 368. [1874, no date on title page.] \$1.00.

plants are sound. The author insists upon the extreme antiquity of the continents and the fact that the present ocean beds have always been such.

The main drawback in the book is the almost entire absence of illustrations, of which there are not a dozen. The reader, however, is constantly referred to a map. While an excellent book for the British student, the American reader will labor under the disadvantage of reference to the local geology of Scotland and England, to the exclusion of the broader views to be derived from a study of the physical geology of his own continent. Compared with the physical geography of our own Guyot, we miss the elegant diction and broad generalizations of the leading physical geographer of his time. The American "Physical Geography" with its beautiful illustration and maps, which appeal so forcibly to the eye, is a much more valuable aid to the naturalist. Young's, however, is an excellent book to read in connection with Guyot.

HALF HOURS WITH THE MICROSCOPE.*—The issue of "Putnam's Popular Manuals" has furnished us a new edition of this best of books for beginners who take up the microscope as a recreation or as a means of studying general natural history. The new edition includes all the advantages of the first. Something between a catalogue of objects and a treatise upon them, it groups together, in a manner both convenient and sufficiently natural, a large number of fascinating microscopic views. The clear and numerous illustrations by Tuffen West, which are rather constructions of the objects than drawings of any one possible view of them, are not on that account imaginary and faulty as has been claimed, but all the better adapted to their purpose.

With the exception of the considerably and judiciously enlarged introductory chapter on the structure of the microscope by the author, in which the binocular receives such unqualified approval as it deserves and receives from those who use it for similar work, and a good half-hour, by F. Kitton, with polarized light illustrated by a bright chromo-lithograph, this edition is not much modernized nor is it much the worse for remaining as it was originally constructed.

*Half Hours with the Microscope; being a popular guide to the use of the microscope as a means of amusement and instruction. By Edwin Lankester, M. D. Illustrated from nature, by Tuffen West. New York: G. P. Putnam's sons, 1874.